

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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O P 031939Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 112685

EXDIS, USSALT TWO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, SALT, BE

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION

REF: A) BRUSSELS 7430; B) STATE 69375; C) STATE 83824

1. IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS MADE BY BAL AND CHAMPENOIS
CONCERNING U.S. INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION
(REF A), EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

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-- WE APPRECIATE GOB VIEWS ON OUR PROPOSED STATEMENT
OF INTERPRETATION ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION, WHICH WE PLAN TO
MAKE TO THE NAC AND TO THE U.S. CONGRESS AFTER SIGNATURE OF
A SALT TWO AGREEMENT.

-- WE PLAN TO PRESENT A DRAFT TEXT OF THE STATEMENT TO

THE NAC PRIOR TO SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT.

-- THE MAJOR POINTS WE WOULD PLAN TO INCLUDE IN SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD BE ALONG THE LINES OF THOSE MADE IN THE REPORT DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR BENNETT TO THE NAC ON APRIL 5.

-- THE INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT WILL PROVIDE A FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT WOULD AND WHAT WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED.

-- MOREOVER, WE WOULD REPEAT THAT THE NON-CIRCUMVENTION PROVISION ADDS NO ADDITIONAL LEGAL OBLIGATIONS BEYOND THOSE INHERENT IN ANY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

-- WE WOULD, AS WE HAVE INDICATED, MAKE THE STATEMENT FORMALLY TO THE CONGRESS AND TO THE NAC AFTER AN AGREEMENT HAD BEEN SIGNED.

2. TOGETHER WITH THESE POINTS, EMBASSY MAY QUOTE FROM, OR PROVIDE TEXT OF, TALKING POINTS FOR U.S. APRIL 5 NAC REPORT (REF C), AS IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE. SIXTH PARA OF REPORT (BEGINNING: "THE NON-CIRCUMVENTION PROVISION, LIKE THE ENTIRE SALT AGREEMENT..." SHOULD CLARIFY WHAT WE MEANT IN THIRD TALKING POINT IN PARA 4, REF B, AND ALLEVIATE BELGIAN CONCERNS ABOUT THE PHRASE "ON POLITICAL GROUNDS."

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3. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO STRESS THAT DISCUSSIONS OF THE INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE HELD IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE. VANCE

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